

## EXTENSIBLE GPS RECEIVER SYSTEM

### BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This application is a continuation of application 08/969,632, now patent No. 6,072,431 filed 11/13/97.

### 5 FIELD OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention relates to a mechanism for processing positioning signals such as those received from the Global Positioning System (GPS).

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### ART BACKGROUND

The global positioning system (GPS) has become extremely popular for a number of applications. GPS receivers are now incorporated into a 15 variety of systems including consumer electronic systems in which the location information or time information provided by GPS supplements the other information provided by the system. Thus, more and more industries are realizing the advantages that GPS can provide.

Typically, when a customer, such as an original equipment 20 manufacturer (OEM) develops a particular application of GPS, the GPS manufacturer generates the application code in accordance with the customer's specification. The GPS manufacturer designs and codes the user application of GPS, as the processing performed by the GPS receiver has strict timing and processing requirements that cannot be disturbed by other 25 processing such as the user application processing. Unless carefully written, the execution of customer code can conflict with the GPS processing code. In addition, there is the danger of the user code overriding sections of memory